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GEOGRAPHY OF MASSACHUSETTS.



MASSACHUSETTS

BY A. GUYOT.

A historical map of the Connecticut River valley, showing the locations of the New Haven, Springfield, and Hartford & New Haven railroads. The map includes state and county boundaries, and labels such as New Haven, Springfield, Hartford, and New Haven. The railroads are depicted as lines connecting these cities.

Latitude West 30' from Greenwich

MAP STUDIES.

NOTE TO THE TEACHER.—The descriptive text upon the counties commences on page 110. Let the county in which the school is situated be studied immediately after the lesson on the town, outlined below for the convenience of the teacher. Take up the other counties in order, after the general description of the State, as a whole. The list of questions given is designed to be used for every county and indicates the topics upon which information is to be given. It is impossible, in an article of limited length, to describe the surface, resources, and business of the several towns of the State; neither is there a satisfactory description necessary. The teacher, if a resident of the town in which he is teaching, will have, from his personal observation, a much better knowledge of it than any book could give; and if a stranger, he can ascertain, by conversation with his patrons, all that he needs to know, to give his pupils a good idea of such parts of the town as lie beyond the range of their own observations.

The best method of carrying on these lessons will be to give the pupils, each day, a few of the questions indicated below, requesting them to ascertain by observation or by inquiry as much as possible upon each point. On the morrow call upon them to state all they have thus been able to learn; and afterward give as much additional information as may be thought necessary or desirable. Finish the lesson by drawing a map of the town and locating its mountains, streams, and villages. A similar exercise should be given upon the resources of the pupils' own county, making use of the descriptive text and the map questions, in addition to what they may ascertain for themselves; and finishing, if practicable, by drawing the map. Any teacher can readily devise a series of horizontal and vertical lines which will enable him accurately to sketch an outline of the county in which he is teaching.

STUDY OF THE PUPIL'S TOWN.

QUESTIONS.—In what town is the school situated? In what part of the county is this town situated? How is its length, and what its breadth? How many square miles does it contain? Is the surface level, hilly, or mountainous? What mountains (if any) in this town? What streams (if any) cross it? What lakes or ponds lie within, or partly within it? In what parts of the town are they? What streams bring water into them? What streams carry the water out from them? Does this town possess any valuable mines or quarries? In what parts of the town are they situated? What is obtained from the mines? What is obtained from the quarries? What are the principal crops raised in the town? Where is the farm produce carried to market? By what means is it transported?

What important manufactures are situated in this town? In what parts of the town are they located? What streams furnish the power? What materials are used in these factories? Where are these materials obtained? What articles are made from these materials? Where are these articles sent for market? How are they sent? What villages are situated in this town? In what parts of the town are they? What are the principal kinds of business in each? What railroads or stage roads cross this town? To what places do they lead? What officers have charge of the public business and interests of the town?

STUDY OF THE COUNTY.

What is the name of this county? In what part of the State is it situated? How is this county bounded? What is its greatest extent from east to west? (Measure with the scale at the margin of the map.) What is its extent from north to south? What mountains (if any) border or traverse this county? What prominent seat of government for the county? In what part of the county is the shire-town situated? What railroads cross this county? What towns are situated in each? What river or rivers traverse this county? What lake or lakes (if any) are included in it? Into what streams do these lakes discharge?

What border towns, commencing with the most north-westerly? Name the interior towns. What important villages are situated in this county? In what town, and on what stream, if any, is each situated? What is the shire-town of the county? What is the seat of government for the county? In what part of the county is the shire-town situated? What railroads cross this county? What towns are situated upon each? What river or rivers traverse this county?

QUESTIONS ON MAP OF THE STATE.

What parallel near the southern boundary of Massachusetts? What portions of the State are crossed by this parallel? What parallel crosses the southernmost points of the mainland of Massachusetts? What portions of the State lie south of the parallel of $41^{\circ} 30'$? What part of the State lies east of this meridian?

Position.

What parallel near the southern boundary of Northern Massachusetts? What forms the eastern boundary of Northern Massachusetts? What long narrow island on the coast north-west of Cape Ann? What two small peninsulas on the coast south-west of Cape Ann? What two large bays on the eastern coast of Massachusetts? What land incloses Cape Cod Bay? What large bay on the southern coast of the State?

QUESTIONS ON MAP OF THE STATE.

What group of islands inclose Buzzard's Bay on the south? Name the four principal islands of the group. Where is Penikese? What two large islands lie south of Cape Cod Peninsula?

What water separates Martha's Vineyard from the Elizabeth Islands? What small island lies south-west of Martha's Vineyard?

What is the only mountainous portion of Massachusetts? What mountain ranges in this portion? What prominent peak? What prominent peak in the south-western part? What prominent elevations near the Connecticut River? On which side of the river are they?

Where is Wachusett Mountain? Hawes' Hill? Mount Lincoln?

What important stream flows through the north-eastern part of Massachusetts? What is its general direction within this State? In what State does it rise? What tributaries does it receive within the State?

What important river enters the northern part of Boston Harbor?

What river of Massachusetts enters Narragansett Bay? What important stream crosses the western portion of Massachusetts? Where does this river rise and where reach the sea?

What streams does the Connecticut receive from Central Massachusetts? Where do these streams rise? What streams enter the Connecticut from Western Massachusetts? What two streams drain the valley west of the Hoosac Mountains? In what direction does each flow?

Cities and Populous Towns.—Describe the location of each, stating in what part of the State it is situated, on or near what water, and in what direction from Boston?

Where is Boston? Worcester? Lowell? Cambridge? Lawrence? Lynn? Fall River? Springfield? Somerville? Salem? Newton? Newburyport? Fitchburg?

New Bedford? Chelsea? Taunton? Haverhill? Holyoke?

Suffolk County. (See small map.) What (see text) does this county consist of? In what part of it is Chelsea? Where are Revere and Winthrop? What districts are included in the western and southern suburbs of Boston? In what part of this large area does the heart of the city lie? *Answer.*—On the small peninsula between Charles River and the Harbor. Where at the south and east of Boston? What forts guard Boston Harbor? Name the largest three of the islands enclosing the harbor. What large cities on the west shore of Charles River? What river on the north side of Charlestown?

Drawing the Map.—1. Draw a very light *horizontal line*, and divide it into nine equal parts, using one part (equal to about 23 miles) as a measure (M).

2. At each end, and at each point of division, draw *vertical lines* downward.

3. Lay off, on the right-hand vertical line, 5 M's, and draw horizontal lines at the en points marked.

Note.—The first horizontal line drawn is the meridian of 11° west longitude from Greenwich, England.

4. Place, by observing their position on the horizontal and vertical lines in the plan, the extreme north-western, north-eastern, south-western and south-eastern points of the State, and Cape Cod Peninsula.

5. Trace all the straight line boundaries of the State, beginning with the northern.

6. Trace the coast line and the outlines of the Elizabeth Islands, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket.

7. Trace the boundaries of the counties, commencing with the most western county in the northern tier.



GEOGRAPHY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

DESCRIPTION OF THE STATE.

Position.

Massachusetts is situated in the southern half of New England, having Vermont and New Hampshire on the north, the Atlantic on the east and south-east, Rhode Island and Connecticut on the south, and New York on the west.

It lies mainly between the parallels of 42° and 43° north latitude, and the meridians of $70^{\circ} 30'$ and $73^{\circ} 30'$ west longitude. The extreme limits, however, lie more than one-half a degree farther to the east and the south.

Form and Extent.

The main body of the State forms a parallelogram, about 140 miles long and nearly fifty miles wide.

Beyond the limits of this figure there is a small projection toward the north-east, including the lower course of the Merrimac River, and a larger district extending toward the south-east. The latter terminates with the long, narrow peninsula of Cape Cod, and the islands of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard.

The entire area of the State is 7,800 square miles, or about 5,000,000 acres.

Surface.

The surface of Massachusetts presents no extreme features, but varies from low, sandy plains in the south-east, to rugged mountains near the western border.

The State consists of four different natural divisions, namely: the Atlantic Plain, the Middle Highlands, the Connecticut Valley, and the Western Highlands.

The ATLANTIC PLAIN extends from the seaboard westward about forty miles. Its western limit may be indicated by an irregular north and south line, crossing the State a little east of Wachusett Mountain.

Though the most level part of the State, this region is generally uneven, the elevation increasing gradually westward. The peninsula of Cape Cod, and the adjacent parts of the mainland, are flat and sandy.

Cape Ann peninsula, and the smaller peninsulas of Marblehead and Nahant, are rugged granite formations.

The MIDDLE HIGHLANDS occupy a belt of about forty miles, between the Atlantic Plain and the Connecticut Valley.

This region has a greater general elevation than the preceding, and the eastern part forms the water-shed between the Atlantic and the Connecticut.

Though the surface is generally hilly, there are but few prominent elevations. Mount Wachusett, near the eastern border, is the highest, being 2,000 feet above the sea level. The more prominent of the lesser elevations are Tuft's Hill and Hawes Hill, in the central part, and Mount Lincoln, near the western border.

The CONNECTICUT VALLEY crosses the State between the Middle and Western Highlands. It varies in breadth from five to twenty-five miles.

This region is an alluvial plain, lying on both sides of the river, interrupted by occasional ridges of trap-rock. The most noted of these are Mount Holyoke, on the eastern side of the stream, 900 feet high; and Mount Tom, on the western, 1,200 feet in height.

Viewed from Mount Holyoke, this valley presents the most picturesque landscape in the State.

The WESTERN HIGHLANDS include that part of the State west of the Connecticut Valley, and, like the eastern, is about forty miles in breadth.

The eastern portion resembles the Middle Highlands, but presents greater irregularities of surface, more abrupt hills, and deeper valleys.

The western portion is mountainous, being crossed from north to south by two parallel ranges of the Green Mountain System; the Hoosac on the east, the Taconic on the west.

The Hoosac range, lying from twenty to thirty miles from the river, is only about half the height of the Taconic. The latter contains the highest peaks in the State, namely: Saddle Mountain, 3,500 feet high, and Bald Mountain, 2,600 feet.

The valley between these ranges, drained by the Housatonic and Hoosac Rivers, is partly alluvial, and in many respects similar in character to the Connecticut Valley.

ISLANDS are numerous along the coast, and resemble the adjacent mainland in character. The only ones of considerable

size are Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard. The former is fifteen miles long and eleven broad in the widest part; the latter twenty-one miles long and from two to ten miles wide.

Plum Island, off the east coast, north of Cape Ann, is nine miles long and one mile wide. The most noted of the smaller islands are the group in Massachusetts Bay, near Boston, and the Elizabeth Islands, inclosing Buzzard's Bay on the south-east.

Inland Waters.

Every part of the State is bountifully watered, but in general the streams are more available for agricultural and manufacturing purposes than as channels of communication. The largest rivers are the Connecticut and the Merrimac.

The Connecticut flows southward, through the Connecticut Valley. In this State it is scarcely used for navigation, but affords immense water-power at South Hadley Falls and at Turner's Falls. Its principal tributaries from the Middle Highlands are Miller's River, and the Chicopee, formed by the confluence of the Ware and the Swift. From the Western Highlands it receives the Deerfield and the Westfield.

The Merrimac enters the State from New Hampshire, and flows through the north-east part into the Atlantic. It is navigable for small craft to Haverhill, twenty miles from its mouth; but is chiefly valuable as a source of water-power, and is more fully utilized for manufacturing purposes than any other river of equal extent. Its most important tributaries are the Nashua and the Concord.

The remaining streams are small. In the Atlantic Plain the principal are the Charles and the Neponset, entering Massachusetts Bay, and the Taunton and Blackstone, flowing into Narragansett Bay.

The Quinnebaug, from the Middle Highlands, flows southward into the Thames. The Housatonic, flowing southward to the Naugatuck, and the Hoosac, flowing northward and westward to the Hudson, drain the mountainous portion of the Western Highlands.

Minerals.

The mineral wealth of Massachusetts consists chiefly of building-stone, especially granite. The most abundant in the eastern part of the State, at Quincy, Weymouth, Westford, and Fitchburg.

White marble and soapstone occur in the Western Highlands, and sandstone abounds in the Connecticut Valley.

Among the metals, silver and lead are found near Newburyport, and small quantities of copper and iron in different parts of the State.

Climate.

The climate is temperate and highly salubrious. The summer, with an average temperature of 70° , is delightful, and of sufficient length for the maturing of the different grains and fruits of temperate latitudes.

The cold season is prolonged in the interior by the elevation,

and on the coast by the prevalence, during spring and autumn, of chilling easterly winds from the Atlantic. Sudden changes of temperature are common during all seasons.

The rain-fall is abundant, moisture being brought by both easterly and southerly winds. Westerly and north-westerly winds bring fair weather.

Soil and Forests.

In a large part of the State the soil does not naturally possess great fertility, but by skillful cultivation bountiful harvests are obtained.

The low, alluvial lands of the Connecticut Valley are exceedingly fertile, while the sandy tracts which occupy some portions of its area are only moderately productive.

The Housatonic Valley is like the Connecticut, but the Hoosac is almost wholly composed of rich alluvium.

The vast sandy plains in the south-eastern portion of the State and on the islands are quite barren.

The original forests, except in the mountainous and inaccessible regions, have long since been cut off; but in districts too rugged for profitable cultivation large tracts of growing timber have reappeared.

Population and Wealth.

Massachusetts has a population of 1,650,000. It is more densely populated than any other State in the Union, having an average of more than two hundred persons to each square mile of its territory.

The inhabitants are mostly native born and of English descent, but the cities and manufacturing villages contain a considerable number of foreigners, chiefly Irish, English, Scotch, and German.

Massachusetts is not only one of the oldest and most enterprising States, but also one of the wealthiest, its total valuation being seventeen hundred millions of dollars.

Occupations and Productions.

In proportion to area and population, Massachusetts is the first State of the Union in MANUFACTURING AND COMMERCE. In the actual amount of manufacturing, this State is surpassed only by New York and Pennsylvania, and in commerce by New York alone.

SHIP-BUILDING is an important industry, Massachusetts being second only to Maine in this pursuit.

The FISHERIES—cod, mackerel, herring, and whale—furnish occupation to great numbers of people in the seaboard districts.

AGRICULTURE is conducted with great skill, and, considering the nature of the soil in general, yields large returns; still, the agricultural produce of the State does not nearly suffice for the wants of its dense population. Hence a large trade in grain and other farm produce is carried on with the Central States.

The leading crops are the different grains, potatoes, and tobacco. Considerable attention is given to dairying, and the rearing of improved breeds of cattle, horses, and sheep.

The MANUFACTURES most largely produced are cotton and woolen goods, boots and shoes and other goods from leather; and a great variety of articles from wood and iron, among which are furniture, agricultural implements, machinery, carriages, cars, and locomotives.

The NATURAL FACILITIES for coastwise and foreign commerce are great, as the coast abounds in safe and spacious harbors. The harbor at Boston is one of the best in the world.

The absence of navigable inland waters, and the rugged character of the surface, form natural obstacles to trade with the interior; but enterprise and capital have effectually overcome these, and lines of traffic have been established, not only with the adjacent States and the British Provinces, but with the most remote parts of the Union.

There are not less than twenty-five hundred miles of railroad within the State, all the main lines centering in Boston. Steam-ship lines also connect Boston with Europe and with the principal domestic ports.

The EXPORTS of the State are the products of the manufactories, quarries, and fisheries.

The IMPORTS are principally food supplies and raw materials for manufacturing, European manufactures, wines and liquors, sugar, tea, coffee, spices, and foreign fruits.

Educational Institutions.

Popular education has always received marked attention in Massachusetts. The system of free schools was established in 1647, and, fostered by a wise and liberal policy, it has steadily developed, until it has attained its present high degree of perfection. The result is seen in the high reputation for general intelligence which the people of this State have always sustained.

Liberal provision has also been made for higher education. The first American college was established in Massachusetts in 1638, the first normal school in 1839, and the first normal art school in 1873.

There are within the State, besides a large number of superior high schools and academies, ten colleges and universities. These are, Harvard and Boston Universities; Amherst; Williams; Tufts; Boston; College of the Holy Cross; Agricultural; Smith College, for women; and Wellesley Female College.

Among the provisions for special education may be named the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston, the Free School of Industrial Science at Worcester, seven theological

seminaries, two law schools, six medical schools, five State normal schools, and one normal art school.

The American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Peabody Academy of Science, the Agassiz Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, and a Museum of Fine Arts, are located in this State. There are also some two hundred public libraries, containing about 700,000 volumes, and a numerous newspaper and periodical press.

Benevolent Institutions.

The State abounds in benevolent and charitable institutions, among which may be named the Massachusetts Hospital and the Boston City Hospital; four lunatic asylums, an asylum and school for the blind, one for the idiotic and feeble-minded, and one for the deaf and dumb; a reform school for boys and an industrial school for girls.

History.

The territory of Massachusetts was first settled at Plymouth by the Plymouth Colony, which landed Dec. 22, 1620.

In 1628 a settlement was made at Salem, under the leadership of John Endicott. During the next two years numerous accessions were received, other settlements were made at Boston and adjacent places, and the government of the Massachusetts Colony was organized.

These colonies remained separate, each electing its own governor, more than half a century.

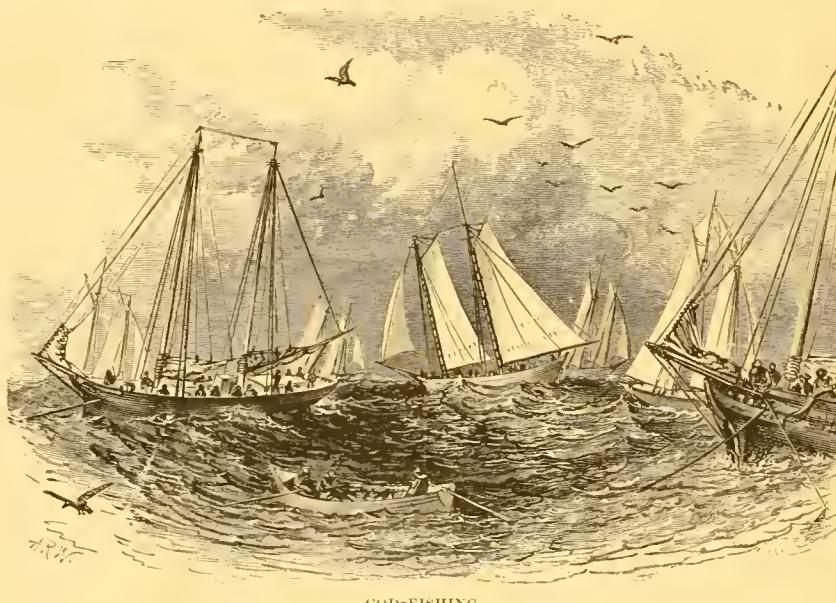
In 1686—their charters having been revoked—Sir Edmund Andros was appointed governor of the two colonies.

His arbitrary and tyrannical measures soon aroused determined opposition. His government was overthrown, and the former colonial officers reinstated.

In 1692 a new charter was granted, uniting the two colonies under the name of Massachusetts, and providing for the appointment of the governor by the crown.

During its early history the tranquillity of the province was disturbed by frequent Indian hostilities, and also by a conflict of the prevailing political and religious opinions, in which individuals were occasionally exposed to persecution from the civil power.

Massachusetts was foremost in active opposition to British tyranny and unjust taxation. Here, too, the first blood of the revolution was shed at Lexington and Concord, and the first



COD-FISHING.

great battle fought at Bunker Hill. Among the great names memorable in the revolutionary struggle, those of the Massachusetts leaders are conspicuous.

Political Organization.

The government of the State is republican, consisting of three departments: Executive, Legislative, and Judicial.

The officers of the Executive Department are, a governor, a lieutenant-governor, and an executive council of eight members; a secretary, a treasurer, an auditor, and an attorney-general.

The Legislative authority is vested in the General Court, consisting of a Senate of forty members, and a House of Representatives of 240.

The Judicial Department comprises a Supreme Judicial Court, a Superior Court, and various lower courts.

The executive and legislative officers of the State, and the various county and town officers, are elected annually by vote of the people. The judiciary are appointed by the governor and council for life, or during good behavior.

Women are not voters, but may legally be elected upon school committees, and appointed on boards of trustees for certain public institutions.

Description of Counties and Cities.

COUNTIES AND THEIR POPULATION.

Berkshire.....	68,270	Suffolk.....	364,886
Franklin.....	33,696	Norfolk.....	88,321
Hampshire.....	44,821	Bristol.....	131,087
Hampden.....	94,304	Plymouth.....	69,362
Worcester.....	210,295	Barnstable.....	32,144
Middlesex.....	284,112	Dukes.....	4,071
Essex.....	223,342	Nantucket.....	3,201

CITIES.

Boston.....	350,000	Somerville.....	22,000
Lowell.....	50,000	Chelsea.....	21,000
Worcester.....	50,000	Taunton.....	20,000
Cambridge.....	48,000	Gloucester.....	17,000
Fall River.....	45,000	Holyoke.....	16,000
Lawrence.....	35,000	Newton.....	16,000
Lynn.....	33,000	Haverhill.....	15,000
Springfield.....	31,000	Newburyport.....	13,000
New Bedford.....	26,000	Fitchburg.....	12,000
Salem.....	26,000	Pittsfield (town).....	12,000

Suffolk.

This county, the most populous and wealthy in the State, is also the smallest, comprising only the cities of Boston and Chelsea, and the towns of Revere and Winthrop.

BOSTON is not only the first city of New England, but is the second of the Union in commercial importance, in which it is surpassed by New York alone. It is a great railroad centre, being the terminus of all the principal lines in New England; and has a magnificent harbor, the advantages of which are

shared by a large population beyond the city limits. A circle drawn with a radius of fifteen miles from the harbor, including the cities and towns whose business centres here, would encompass a population of not less than half a million.

Shipping and foreign trade are the characteristic branches of business, but the domestic trade is large and varied, and the manufactures considerable. A United States navy yard is located here.

A large part of the business portion of Boston was destroyed by fire on the 9th of November, 1872, but it has since been rebuilt in a greatly improved style. The public buildings, and many of the warehouses and private dwellings, are substantial and elegant.

The Common and Public Garden, though not extensive, are beautiful pleasure grounds, and, situated in the very heart of the city, form one of its most attractive features. It has, also, numerous historical landmarks, among which are Faneuil Hall, the Old State House, the Old South Church, Bunker Hill, and Dorchester Heights.

Boston has always been noted for its superior educational facilities and numerous benevolent institutions, and for the high culture, patriotism, and enterprising character of its people.

CHELSEA is closely identified with Boston in business interests.

Essex.

This county occupies the extreme north-eastern portion of the State. It is distinguished by the rugged character of its coast, which is indented by numerous small bays, forming excellent harbors. The larger part of the lower course of the Merrimac, with superior water-power, lies within this county.

The chief mineral resources are the granite quarries of Rockport, and the silver and lead mines of Newbury.

The sea-board towns, excepting Lynn, are engaged chiefly in commerce and the fisheries; the interior towns, in agriculture and the manufacture of cotton goods and boots and shoes.

LAWRENCE is the largest city in the county, and the principal centre of cotton manufacture. It has grown up entirely within thirty years.

LYNN and HAVERHILL are the great centres of the boot and shoe manufacture.

SALEM formerly had a large trade with the East Indies, from which it derived great wealth. At present it has little importance as a commercial port.

GLoucester is more extensively engaged in the cod and mackerel fisheries than any other port in the Union. These fisheries, with the trade derived from them, employ most of the labor and capital of the city.

NEWBURYPORT is an old ship-building port, which formerly had a considerable commerce, and is now the centre of a large local trade.

Andover is the seat of Andover Theological Seminary, and of Phillips Academy.

Wenham exports large quantities of ice.

Middlesex and Norfolk.

These counties occupy the best portion of the Atlantic plain, stretching across the State from New Hampshire to Rhode Island, and share with Suffolk the advantages of Boston harbor.

Agriculture and manufacturing are the characteristic pursuits. In Norfolk much attention is given to raising vegetables for the city markets. The granite quarries in Quincy also employ a large number of men.

The principal manufactures are cotton and woolen goods, carpets, paper, leather, shoes, railroad cars and other vehicles.

In both counties the towns adjacent to Boston are especially populous, being properly but suburbs of that city.

LOWELL, the most populous city of Middlesex, is the most celebrated manufacturing city in America and one of the largest.

CAMBRIDGE is the seat of Harvard University and is famous for its cultivated society and fine residences. This city and SOMERVILLE are closely identified with Boston in business interests.

NEWTON is the seat of a Theological Seminary. Waltham is noted for its manufacture of watches. Lexington and Concord were the scene of the first hostilities of the revolution. The latter has been the home of a number of men eminent in literature, among whom are Emerson, Hawthorne, and Thoreau.

Quincy, in Norfolk, is famous for its granite. This place is the home of the Adams family, which has produced two Presidents of the United States. Dedham is the county-seat.

Bristol and Plymouth.

These counties lie principally in the south-eastern projection of the State. Plymouth lies in the more barren portion of the Atlantic plain, but Bristol has, in the main, a productive soil.

Excellent harbors are found in both counties, and the coasting trade and fisheries occupy a large part of the sea-board population. Manufacturing—especially of cotton goods, boots and shoes, iron wares and machinery—is largely carried on in the inland towns.

FALL RIVER is one of the principal seats of cotton manufacturing in New England. NEW BEDFORD is the greatest whaling port in the country, though this business is much less extensive than formerly.

TAUNTON is celebrated for its extensive locomotive works. Attleboro manufactures large quantities of jewelry.

Bridgewater is the seat of a State Normal School. Abington and Middleboro are largely engaged in the shoe manufacture. Marshfield was the home of Daniel Webster. At Plymouth the first permanent settlement in New England was made by the "Pilgrims."

Barnstable, Dukes, and Nantucket.

These three counties occupy the peninsula of Cape Cod and the islands at the south and south-west of it. They are distinguished by the sterility of their soil and the extent to which their people are occupied with seafaring pursuits. They contain few places of importance.

Sandwich has the largest and most successful glass works of the country. Provincetown, on Cape Cod, is an important fishing port.

Nantucket was once celebrated for its whale fisheries, but the harbor is now almost destitute of shipping.

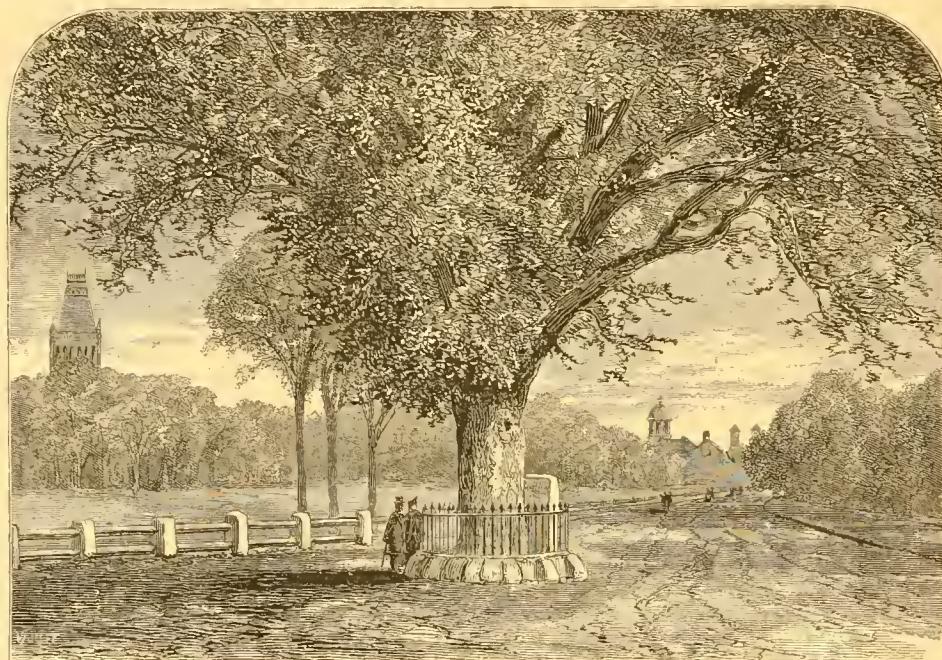
Martha's Vineyard is chiefly known as a summer resort.

Worcester.

This is the largest county of Massachusetts, and ranks fourth in population and wealth. It occupies the larger part of the Middle Highlands, and the western margin of the Atlantic plain, including some of the richest and most highly cultivated agricultural regions of the State. The principal source of wealth is in the manufactures, which are extensive and exceedingly varied.

WORCESTER, often called the "heart of the commonwealth," is an enterprising and beautiful city. It is a prominent railroad centre, has a large country trade, and carries on a great variety of manufactures, among which are iron and steel wire, agricultural implements and iron castings; machinery for cotton, paper, and woolen mills; clothing and fire-arms.

The College of the Holy Cross is located here, also a Polytechnic School, a State Normal School, and the Worcester Academy.



WASHINGTON ELM, CAMBRIDGE.

FITCHBURG is handsomely located and growing rapidly. It is largely engaged in manufacturing, especially chairs, cotton goods, and paper.

Clinton manufactures large quantities of cotton and woolen goods and carpets. Athol, Blackstone, and several other towns also manufacture cottons and woolens. Gardner makes chairs and settees; Winchendon, hollow wooden wares; and Milford and North Brookfield, boots and shoes. At Westboro is the State Reform School for boys.

Franklin, Hampshire, and Hampden.

These counties stretch across the Connecticut Valley, and include about one-third of the Middle Highlands and nearly one half of the Western.

They embrace an area a little larger than Worcester county; but their aggregate wealth and population is one-third less. Agriculture is the leading pursuit of the people, and tobacco is an important crop in the Connecticut Valley. Mills and manufactories are frequent on the smaller streams; and since the magnificent water-power of the Connecticut, at Turner's and South Hadley Falls, has been made available, the best facilities in the country for manufacturing purposes are here furnished.

SPRINGFIELD, the largest city in the State west of Worcester, is an important railroad centre. It has a considerable country trade, and is the seat of extensive manufactories and of a United States Arsenal.

HOLYOKE, at South Hadley Falls, has been built up within the past twenty-five years. It has almost unlimited water-power, which is employed in manufacturing, especially cottons, woolens, and paper. Chicopee, besides cotton and woolen-mills, has a noted brass foundry. At Westfield is a State Normal School. Wesleyan Academy is located at Wilbraham.

East Hampton is the seat of Williston Seminary, and South Hadley of Mount Holyoke Female Seminary. Northampton is celebrated as one of the most beautiful towns in the country.

It contains an asylum for the insane, and is the seat of Smith College for women. Amherst College and the State Agricultural College are located at Amherst.

Deerfield and Greenfield are rich farming towns, with some manufactures. Turner's Falls, though of recent growth, is the most important manufacturing town in Franklin county. The various works already located here, the immense water-power still unemployed, and the excellent facilities for transportation, give promise that it will become one of the great manufacturing centres of the State.

Berkshire.

This county comprises the extreme western portion of the State, including the Hoosac and Taconic mountain regions and the valleys between them. Quarries of white marble and soap-stone are among the mineral resources of the county.

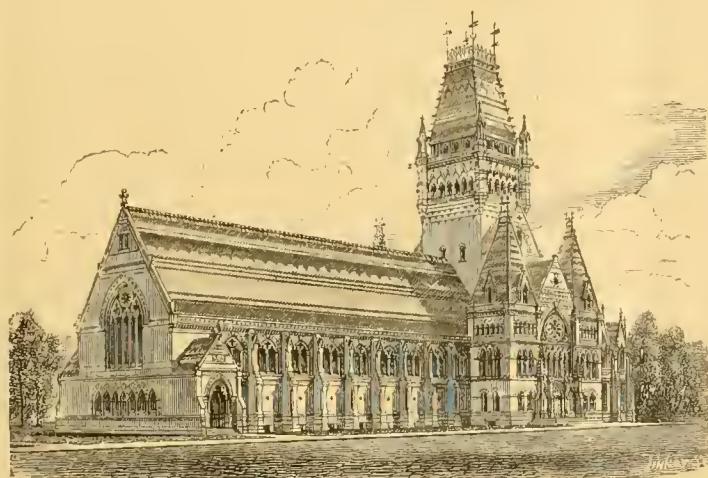
The elevated regions are, in winter, bleak and snowy, but in summer the air is cool and salubrious. Hence they form attractive summer resorts. The chief pursuit of the people in these districts is farming, especially dairying and stock-raising.

The valley towns have a milder climate and are adapted to the various branches of agriculture. Many of them are largely engaged in manufacturing and are quite populous.

PITTSFIELD, the most populous town in the county, carries on a variety of manufactures. It is the seat of Berkshire Medical College, and of a flourishing seminary for young ladies.

North Adams is an enterprising village with extensive manufactories of cotton and woolen fabrics. Near this place is the western entrance to the Hoosac tunnel, which pierces the Hoosac mountain, a distance of nearly four miles.

Williamstown, the seat of Williams College, is the centre of a thriving farming region. Lenox has valuable quarries of white marble. These two towns are noted for their picturesque beauty and healthfulness, and attract considerable numbers of summer residents.

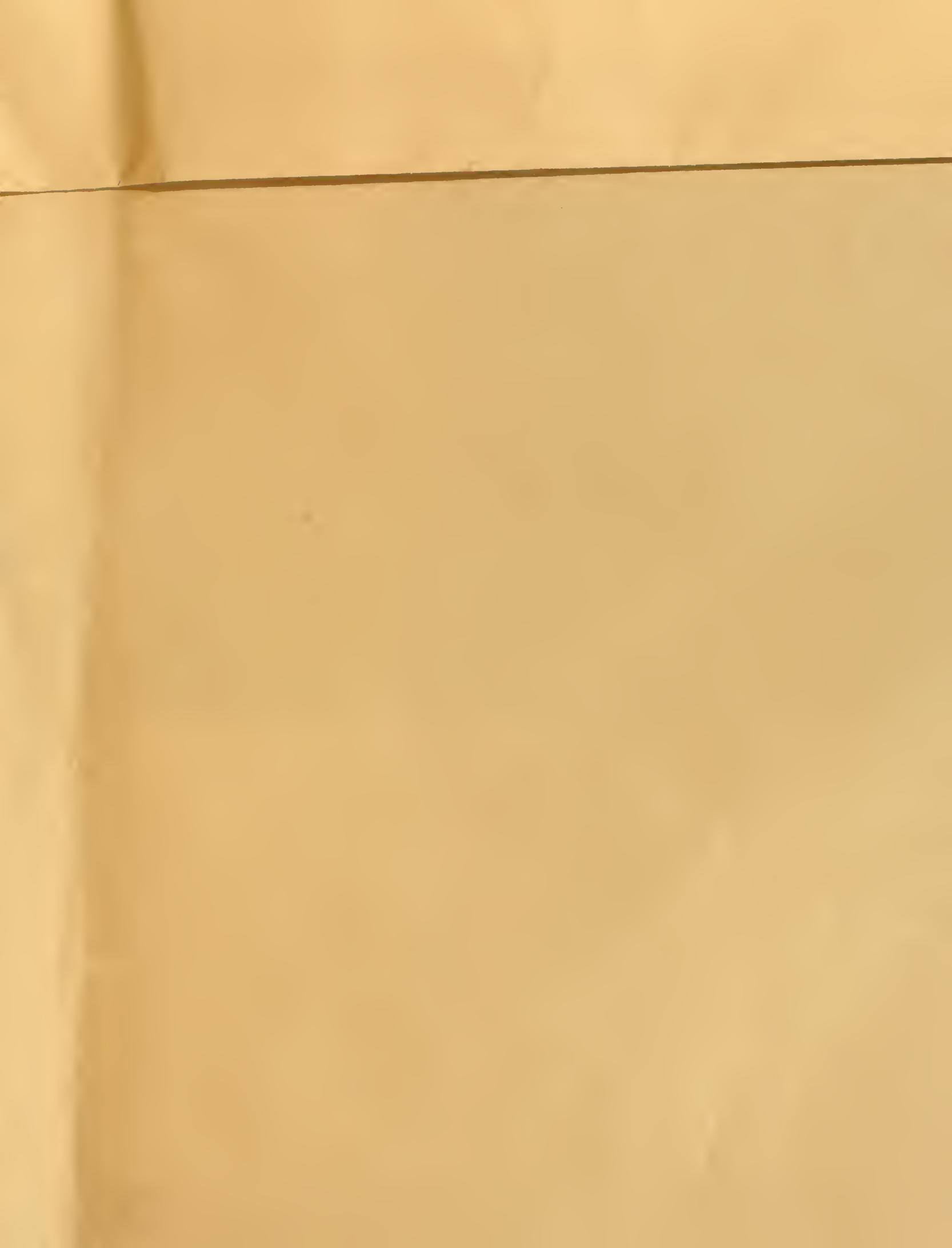


MEMORIAL HALL, HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

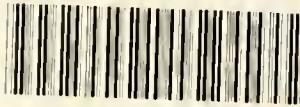
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